

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 301468

NODIS

FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 5717 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 17 DEC 77

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5717

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SO, ET

SUBJ: YOUNG-HUSSEIN KASIM MEETING

1. AMB YOUNG MET WITH SOMALI MINISTER OF MINERALS AND WATER RESOURCES HUSSEIN KASIM FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR DECEMBER 16. KASIM EXPRESSED CONCERNS OVER SOVIET AND CUBAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA AND ASKED AMB YOUNG'S ADVICE ON HOW SOMALI GOVERNMENT MIGHT BEST PURSUE NEGOTIATED SOLUTION IN THE OGADEN. HE SAID SOVIETS HAD TOLD SOMALIS THAT THEY WOULD EXPECT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO DO NOTHING AND THAT THEY (SOVIETS) WOULD EVENTUALLY IMPOSE SETTLEMENT.

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2. SOMALI MINISTER DREW CAREFUL DISTINCTION BETWEEN GSDR LEGAL VIEWS ON STATUS ON DJIBOUTI, OGADEN, AND NFD IN KENYA. DJIBOUTI AND OGADEN WERE ANALOGOUS IN THAT THEY WERE BOTH COLONIZED BY OUTSIDE POWERS AND GSDR RECOGNIZED APPLICABILITY OF OAU PRINCIPLE OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY ONCE COLONIAL POWER DEPARTED. IN OGADEN, HOWEVER, COLONIAL POWER REMAINED.

3. MINISTER DID NOT INDICATE ANY POSITIVE PROGRESS OF OAU MEDIATION EFFORT BUT SAID NIGERIA HAD BEEN EVEN-HANDED IN ITS EFFORTS AS CHAIRMAN. MINISTER SINGLED OUT TANZANIANS, HOWEVER FOR THEIR STANCE ON TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. HE SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE TANZANIA'S VIEWS ACCURATELY REFLECTED THOSE OF OTHER AFRICANS.

4. KASIM THEN RETURNED TO SUBJECT OF HOW GSDR SHOULD PROCEED, STATING THAT BECAUSE OF BEGIN VISIT HIS DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER WITH ADVISER FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS BRZEZINSKI EARLIER IN THE DAY HAD BEEN CUT SHORT. AMB YOUNG NOTED THAT PRESIDENT SADAT WAS PERHAPS MOST POPULAR FOREIGN LEADER IN US AT PRESENT AND WAS IN FACT VERY CONCERNED ABOUT SITUATION IN HORN. SADAT DID NOT HAVE US WEAPONS AND USG COULD NOT DICTATE TO HIM ON THIS SUBJECT. SADAT NEEDED SUPPORT OF STATES SUCH AS SUDAN AND SOMALIA FOR HIS MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVES SINCE SUCH SUPPORT WOULD SIMPLIFY HIS PROBLEMS WITH THE SAUDIS, JORDANIANS AND OTHERS. THE GSDR MIGHT CONSIDER, THEREFORE, MORE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EGYPTIANS. AS FAR AS USG WAS CONCERNED, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR US TO MOVE FROM ITS PRESENT POSITIONS.

5. AMB YOUNG ALSO NOTED THAT SOVIET EFFORTS WERE NOT PUBLICLY VISIBLE AT PRESENT. IF SOMALIS BROUGHT MATTER
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BEFORE SECURITY COUNCIL, HOWEVER, US WOULD BE PROVIDED WITH CONVENIENT PUBLIC FORUM TO CONFRONT SOVIETS AND CUBANS.
YOUNG

UNQUOTE VANCE

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